

ESQUIRE

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# AN INQUIRY INTO THE DARKNESS OF THE CLOAK, *The Sharpness of the Dagger*

CPYRGHT

After Diem and the Bay of Pigs,  
after Mossadegh and Arbenz,  
we must recognize the CIA  
for what it is—and control it, says  
this outspoken Congressman

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by Rep. John V. Lindsay

Two major reversals in our foreign policy within the last three years have shaken the poise of the Intelligence branch of the United States government to its underpinnings: the abortive adventure at the Bay of Pigs, and the blinding miasma of United States policy that arose in South Vietnam during the Diem era.

The immediate dangers past, commentators have sought to unravel the confusing web of influences in both situations. The full truth is not yet known, and may never be. Nonetheless, it seems indisputable that in both cases the three principal instruments of U.S. foreign policy—the State Department, the military, and the Central Intelligence Agency—were at crucial times pulling in separate directions.

The criticism most frequently heard is that the C.I.A. was meddling in policy, undertaking functions that were not its proper responsibility. The charge has been made that the C.I.A. was combining Intelligence gathering with active "operations," a course which carries the risk that Intelligence may be used to support prior operational decisions. It has been alleged over and over that in Vietnam, as in the Bay of Pigs, the C.I.A., with or without direction from higher authority, became enmeshed in its own intrigues. In the Bay of Pigs, the C.I.A. was found supporting a collection of Batista refugees, apparently without clear direction from the State Department. In Vietnam, it became clear that the C.I.A. was closely aligned with and subsidizing the Special Forces run by the late Ngo Dinh Nhu, an elite military force that raided the Buddhist pagodas. Responsible representatives of the press have reported strong disagreements between the State Department and the C.I.A. with regard to policy in Vietnam, and these reports must stand